

(b) The revival plan of ITI included acquisition of the state-of-the-art technologies and its manufacture, product diversification into non-telecom products, contract manufacturing and manufacturing of GSM equipment. It also envisaged re-training and re-deployment of manpower to maintain time schedules for new activities. The manpower cost was expected to be brought down by offering Voluntary Retirement Scheme.

The financial package sanctioned to ITI during December, 2004 and spread over from years as under:

(i) Expenditure for VRS	=	Rs. 558.00 crore
(ii) Waiver of interest	=	Rs. 23.67 crore
(iii) Capital expenditure	=	Rs. 150.00 crore
(iv) Equity infusion	=	Rs. 200.00 crore
(v) PF dues	=	Rs. 93.10 crore
TOTAL:		Rs. 1024.77 crore

Opposition of Press Note 5 by global telecom companies

1652. DR. M.A.M. RAMASWAMY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the global telecom companies have opposed Press Note 5 issued by Government banning access to their telecom network in India from a location outside the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the reasons advanced by the telecom operators opposing remote access; and

(d) the reaction of Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The global telecom companies in their representations have stated that restrictions on Remote Access would affect the ability of their India-

based Multi-National Corporate (MNC) customers and other members of the Information Technology (IT) Sector to continue to receive world-class global communications services.

(c) and (d) The Government is reviewing various conditions of the said Press Note including condition related to Remote Access.

Dearness relief for retired employees of Posts and Telegraph

1653. SHRI KALRAJ MISHRA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the dearness relief announced by Government from time to time for retired employees (Pensioners) of the Posts and Telegraph Department are paid to them in time;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps Government would take to ensure that the retired employees (Pensioners) would get all of their allowances in time as announced by the Central Government from time to time?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) The Department of Pension and Pensioners Welfare issues the circulars regarding payment of dearness relief to pensioners to all Ministries and Departments. This Department always ensures that such orders are immediately endorsed to the field units for immediate payment of Dearness Relief.

(b) The OM No. 42/2/2006-P&PW(G) dated 5th April, 2006 regarding grant of Dearness Relief to Central Pensioners/Family Pensioners - revised rates effective from 1st January, 2006 was obtained and circulated to all Heads of Circles, Regional Offices and Accounts Offices on 10th April, 2006. Subsequently, the OM No. 42/2/2006-P&PW(G) dated 15th September, 2006 regarding grant of Dearness Relief to Central Government Pensioners/Family Pensioners - revised rates effective from 1st July, 2006 was obtained from Department of Pension on 21st September, 2006 and circulated to field units on 22nd September, 2006 for payment of Dearness